

REPLACED BY
ART 34 AMDT

CLAIMS

1. A method for the continuous production of a composition comprising rubber (20), a hydrocarbon resin (22), and a solvent (26), with the use of a dual-screw extruder (10).
2. A method according to Claim 1, which provides for the addition of at least a fraction of the solvent (26) at a point of the extruder (10) that is downstream of the initial section.
3. A method according to Claim 2, in which a first addition of solvent (26) takes place at a distance of at least 4 D from the initial section of the extruder (10).
4. A method according to Claim 2 or Claim 3 in which the solvent (26) is added at a plurality of different points disposed downstream of the initial section of the extruder (10).
5. A method according to Claim 3 or Claim 4 in which, in the portion of the extruder (10) that is upstream of the point at which the first addition of solvent (26) is performed, the temperature is kept within a range of between 60°C and 120°C whereas, in the portion of the extruder (10) that is downstream of the point at which the first addition of solvent (26) is performed, the temperature is kept within a range of between 40°C and 80°C, the temperature in the upstream portion being greater than that prevailing in the downstream portion.
6. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, which provides for the addition of at least a fraction of the hydrocarbon resin (22) at a point of the extruder (10) that is downstream of the initial section.

7. A method according to any one of the preceding claims in which the rubber (20) is selected from the group consisting of natural rubbers, synthetic rubbers and mixtures thereof.

8. A method according to any one of the preceding claims in which the hydrocarbon resin (22) has tackifying properties.

9. A method according to any one of the preceding claims in which the solvent (26) is selected from the group consisting of hexane, pentane, dichloropropane, and mixtures thereof.

10. A method according to any one of the preceding claims in which the dual-screw extruder (10) is of the co-rotating type.